

Eastern Illinois University

The Keep

Minutes

Library Advisory Board

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September 18, 2019

Library Advisory Board

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MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

Sept. 18, 2019

Bailey Young, chairman of the Library Advisory Board, called the meeting to order at 4 p.m. in Witters Conference Room 4440.

Present: David Boggs, Steve Brantley, Crystal Brown, Julie Campbell, Jon Coleman, Amy Davis, Lauri DeRuiter-Willems, Angela Glaros, Zach Newell, Lee Patterson, Stu Sallehu, Zen Timilsena, Seth Yeakel, Bailey Young

Excused: A. Desire Adom, Sheila Simons

I. Welcome and Comments

a. Welcome

Young welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the LAB. He asked everyone to introduce themselves.

b. Approval of minutes

Bailey Young requested that he be listed as “present” instead of “excused” in the minutes of the April 17, 2019, meeting. Jon Coleman moved to approve the April minutes as corrected; Steve Brantley seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Julie Campbell, Stu Sallehu and Seth Yeakel abstained.

II. Communications

Young and Heldebrandt reported that they had received no communications prior to the meeting.

III. Old Business

There was no old business to report.

IV. New Business

a. Faculty social

Newell reported that in the spring the LAB hosted its first Faculty Social to kick off the new Faculty Reading Room and to solicit feedback from faculty regarding the library. He explained that the room had been moved to the third floor north after the Center for the Humanities had moved into the former Faculty Reading Room space on the first floor. The Faculty Social was a success and a great way to get faculty together in the library. Newell suggested having another Faculty Social on Oct. 16 following the LAB meeting and before Dr. Kevin Anderson’s lecture as part of the library’s fall exhibit series. The group approved the Faculty Social for 5 p.m. Oct. 16. Zach asked if the proposed CSI space was a logical location. Board members approved the location.

b. Dean’s report

1. Strategic planning

Newell reported that since the spring the library staff had begun a strategic planning process. Newell explained that the library has undergone a lot of change, and it seemed

like a good time to articulate a vision for the library. With the approval of Provost Jay Gatrell, he decided to move forward with creating a strategic plan. After working over the summer, the strategic planning committee is nearing the end of its process and is currently creating goals. Focus groups have been held with library employees. Focus groups are planned to garner feedback from students, administration and faculty. Newell asked if the LAB members would be willing to serve as a focus group for faculty. Faculty members on the board agreed to participate; student members of the board will have the opportunity to attend the focus group for students. The board agreed to postpone the regular board agenda for the Oct. 16 meeting and instead use that time for the focus group session. The meeting will begin at 3:30 p.m. in order to provide time to conduct the focus group prior to the Faculty Social at 5 p.m.

2. Center for Student Innovation

Newell gave an update on plans for a Center for Student Innovation in the library. He explained library plans for renovating the former Periodicals storage room on the first floor into the CSI. In the past several months, EIU representatives visited the University of Illinois in the spring to see their spaces for technological innovation; applied for a grant for flexible furniture through Steelcase; created a “look book” with architectural plans on how to renovate the space; cultivated potential donors; and purchased technology through ATAC funds. Newell demonstrated the “look book” and explained the plans for the space; he will send all LAB members the link to view the book in The Keep. Plans include an Active Learning Classroom, Design Lab, Gateway and Collaboratory in a four-phase project. The space will include flexible furniture and emerging technologies such as 3D printers, green screen, virtual reality software, etc. Teaching training for EIU faculty and with area schools is being planned through the Faculty Development and Innovation Center. Feedback is being sought from students, faculty and staff on how to best use the CSI space. Newell explained that the periodicals that had been stored in the space have been moved to another location in the library. No bound periodicals have been eliminated; however, the library is looking at journals that are available electronically and will consider removing duplicate print copies in the future.

3. Race Card Project and other fall events

Newell reported that the library continues to seek collaborations with faculty and campus groups for programs and exhibits in the library. Diversity and inclusion is a strategic planning goal. EIU is participating in the Race Card Project, a national program begun by Michelle Norris of National Public Radio, and the project wall is now on display in the library’s Marvin Foyer. Patrons are asked to post six words related to race; LAB members are encouraged to post their thoughts on the board. This project was a collaboration with the Pine Honors College, Office of Inclusion and Academic Engagement, and Making Excellence Inclusive. The board will remain on display until Oct. 11; a report on the project will be given at the RISE Conference.

The library’s fall exhibit will kick off next week. “For All the People: A Century of Citizen Action in Health Care Reform” is a traveling exhibit sponsored by the National Library of

Medicine. Newell thanked LAB member Sheila Simons for serving as a presenter during the series.

In other news, Newell reported that the library is still waiting for Facilities staff to complete work on gender-inclusive restrooms. Two restrooms have been targeted on the fourth floor. The Meditation/Spiritual Room was opened in the summer and seems to be getting a lot of use.

The Faculty Reading Room also is available and being used. At the request of faculty at the spring social, a Keurig machine and mini-fridge have been added to the room. Plans were considered to remove some of the shelves in order to create more collaborative space; however, the process is more complicated and expensive because of historical preservation concerns. Plans also are being considered to lock the room so it is accessible only to faculty; however, an adequate solution has not been identified.

Finally, the Fall Book Sale is next Wednesday, Sept. 25. Proceeds average about \$1,500 per sale (two are held per year), and the funds go into a gift account to sustain other programs and services. Newell thanked library staff for their enthusiasm about all of the library changes over the past year. Lee Patterson thanked the library and said it has served the campus extremely well and is well regarded on campus.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Beth Heldebrandt, recording secretary